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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

Episode No. 23

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12:30 to 1:30 P.M. C.D.S.T.

JUNE 16, 1932

THURSDAY

ANNOUNCER: And now -- "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers".

(ORCHESTRA: QUARTET)

ANNOUNCER:

Well, Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant, Jerry Quick, are still on the job managing and protecting the forest resources of the Pine Cone ranger district. We find Jerry at work today in one of the deep cool canyons in the National Forest surveying sites for summer homes. There are more than eleven thousand of these summer cottages in the National Forests, where the permittees take their families and friends for a cool vacation. Jerry is getting ready for additional applicants. With the help of a guard he is surveying the boundaries and setting up markers for some new summer homesites. --

ORCHESTRA:

JERRY: (CALLS) Move your rod a little to the left, Jack.

JACK: (OFF) How's that?

JERRY: (CALLS) Back a little -- There -- that's about right.
Now let me get a sight on it again. -- Yeah. That's right.

JACK: (OFF) Is it all right now?

JERRY: (CALLS) Okay, Jack. Drive your stake.

(SOUND OF DRIVING STAKE, OFF)

MILLER: (COMING UP) How do you do

JERRY: Hello there.

MILLER: Doing a little surveying?

JERRY: Yes sir. We're marking off four more lots for summer homes.

MILLER: I see. -- Are you the new assistant ranger here?

JERRY: Yes sir.

MILLER: Miller's my name.

JERRY: Glad to know you. Quick's mine.

MILLER: I have the little summer cottage down below where the two creeks come together. -- The one with the rustic arch at the entrance and green shutters on the house.

JERRY: Oh yes, Mr. Miller. I've seen your permit in the files at the ranger station.

MILLER: No doubt. I put up the cabin last summer. I know Ranger Jim Robbins, of course.

JERRY: Sure. He's my boss.

MILLER: Well, you've got a mighty fine boss. I've found him very accommodating and square to deal with.

JERRY: Jim plays square with everybody. We all try to in the Forest Service.

MILLER: I know. -- By the way, I had a notice from Mr. Robbins the other day that my rental for the summer home site this year was due.

JERRY: Yes. I believe I made out the notice.

MILLER: Well, I'm sorry the matter has not been attended to. Fact is I've been so busy getting moved up here. -- But I'll just give you a check for the amount and you can fix it up for me.

JERRY: (HESITATING) Well -- you see Mr. Miller, I'm not supposed to take remittances. They -- that is, you are supposed to send it to the Fiscal Agent with that letter of transmittal we mailed to you with the notice.

MILLER: Oh yes. I remember there was a letter of some sort. I think I must have left that at my office. You can just fix up another one like it, can't you? It will be a great accommodation, Mr. Quick. I don't go down to the post office very often you know.

JERRY: (HESITATING) Well, I guess I can make a copy of the letter of transmittal and fix --

MILLER: (CUTTING IN) That's fine. I appreciate your kindness and I'm sorry to put you to the trouble. I know you forest rangers are very busy.

JERRY: I should say. You see there are so many kinds of uses. Summer homes is just one of them.

MILLER: And I suppose these campers and tourists take up your time too.

JERRY: Yeah. We have the recreational work and the timber management -- handling the timber like a crop --

MILLER: Yes, I know. Ranger Robbins explained it to me. It's very interesting. Keeping up a sustained yield, I believe he called it.

JERRY: That's it. -- Then there is the grazing management and the protection work - fire and insects -- and the improvement work. Say, have you seen the new trail we're building up on the Fork? We have a crew working on it now.

MILLER: That will be an interesting place for me to go on one of my little jaunts through the forest. Well, I guess you have plenty to do, all right -- I won't keep you from surveying any longer.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Oh, I didn't mean it like that. I was just telling about some of our other jobs --

MILLER: (LAUGHS) I understand. -- I'd really like to know more about this forestry work. Won't you drop in and see us? I'd like to talk with you about your work, and I'd like to show you my place. We think we're getting things fixed up, pretty nice there.

JERRY: Thanks - I don't find much time to go visiting.

MILLER: Well, drop in if you happen to be going by at meal time. Mrs. Miller and the girls will be up next week and then we will have lots of good cooks.

JERRY: (WITH MORE INTEREST) Your daughters?

MILLER: ----- Just one. My daughter Beatrice. But she is bringing up some of her college chums. -- Just drop in any time. I'll be glad to see you.

JERRY: (WARMLY) Thanks very much, Mr. Miller, I sure will, and I'll fix up that rent payment for you.

MILLER: All right. Thanks very much. Good bye.

JERRY: Goodbye Mr. Miller. -- (CALLS) Oh, Jack ---

JACK: (OFF) Yeah?

JERRY: Got that stake in?

JACK: (COMING UP) Yeah. What did that fellow say about girls?

JERRY: Oh, he said his daughter is having some college girls up to their cabin. He invited me to dinner.

JACK: Swell -- let's go now!

JERRY: (LAUGHING) You leave all that to me, Jack. You go stand your target rod on that corner so I can get a squint at it.

JACK: (MOVING OFF) Somebody's always taking the joy out of this job.

JERRY: If you're a real good boy, Jack, maybe I'll take you with me.

JACK: (OFF) You're a pal, Jerry -- I knew ---

JERRY: (CALLS) Whoa -- back a little -- little more -- wig-wag your rod so I can see it. (PAUSE) -- steady now. There, Okay. Now pull up the tape. Pull 'er tight.

JACK: (OFF) Got it?

JERRY: Let's see -- We hit 'er right on the dot Jack!
That's not so bad, eh?

JACK: (COMING UP) Pretty good, I'll say!

JERRY: Well, that finishes 'er up. Better wind up the tape,
Jack.

JACK: Okay.

(SOUND OF AUTO, OFF)

TOURIST: (OFF) Hello, there!

JERRY: Yes, sir!

TOURIST: (OFF) Are you the ranger?

JERRY: I'm the assistant ranger here. Anything I can do
for you?

TOURIST: (UP) Could I get a permit to build a camp fire?

JERRY: Sure. Let me get a camp fire permit blank out of
my carrying case. -- Just a second -- Here we are.
What's the name?

TOURIST: Smith -- O. P. Smith.

JERRY: Address?

TOURIST: Willow Glen.

JERRY: Willow Glen. -- Let's see - your auto license number
is 23227 -- Let me get a record of it on my notebook
form. --- 23227 -- All right, sign here please --
there you are.

TOURIST: Thanks.

JERRY: Be sure to read the fire rules on the back of the
prmit, Mister Smith. Build your campfire in a safe
place, you know, and scrape away all inflammable
material so there will be bare ground around the fire.

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TOURIST: I certainly will.

JERRY: And listen, be - sure - your - fire - is - out - before you leave it. Drown it with water and then stir it up so you will know it is thoroughly soaked and dead.

TOURIST: I know. I always do that.

JERRY: Good. -- Well, I hope you make out all right, Mr. Smith.

TOURIST: Much obliged to you, sir. -- Oh, by the way. Have you got a map of the forest I could take?

JERRY: I'm sorry, I haven't a single information map left in my case. -- You can take this one of mine, though, if you want.

TOURIST: I don't want to take the only one you have.

JERRY: Oh that's all right. You're welcome to it. -- It's kinda pocket worn though -- I've been carrying it around in my pocket several days now.

TOURIST: I don't mind that. Thanks very much.

JERRY: Okay. Good luck to you.

TOURIST: Same to you, sir. Good bye.

(SOUND OF AUTO, GOING OFF)

JERRY: Well, Jack. Let's get our stuff together and head back to the ranger station.

JACK: Okay.

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

BESS: (COMING UP) Jerry, what are you looking so worried about?

BESS: Lost something? What is it?

JERRY: It's a check. One of the summer home permittees gave me a check for his rent this morning -- and I can't find it.

BESS: I don't believe you should have taken a check from a permittee, Jerry.

JERRY: I guess I shouldn't have.

BESS: Have you looked through all your pockets?

JERRY: Yeah. Half a dozen times.

BESS: And your carrying case?

JERRY: Yeah. But I'm sure I put it in my breast pocket here. --- Shucks. I can't tell him I lost the money - he'll think I'm trying to pull something crooked.

BESS: Now don't worry, Jerry. No doubt we'll find it.

JERRY: Fat chance I can see. If I dropped it in the road up there, it's probably buried in the dust by now.

BESS: Maybe it'll be turned in here at the station.

JERRY: Yeah. And maybe it won't. -- I guess I'll have to pay it outa my salary. And that'll sure hurt.

BESS: Did you have anything else in that pocket with the check, Jerry?

JERRY: Yeah. Some other papers and things -- and a map folder. -- I'm sure I stuck it in that pocket.

BESS: Perhaps the check got inside one of the folds of the map.

JERRY: Sa-ay -- it might've at that! --- But I gave the map folder to a tourist that wanted a camp fire permit. -- I guess he's clear out of the district by now.

BESS: Which way was he going?

JERRY: He was headin' north, on the Blue Lake road.

BESS: Do you have his license number?

JERRY: Yeah. I've got the record of his camp fire permit here in the notebook.

JIM: (ENTERING) Hello there, folks.

BESS: Hello, Jim.

JERRY: Hello.

JIM: Well, Jerry, you beat me home. How did the surveying go?

JERRY: All right, I guess, Mr. Robbins

JIM: Mistering me again, eh? What's the matter? Have any trouble running the lines?

JERRY: N-no. I got 'em all okay.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, that's good. -- I've just been up inspecting Windy Mountain lookout today. The boy's right on the job up there, I'll tell you.

JERRY: Uh huh.

JIM: Saw half a dozen deer on the way.

BESS: Oh, they're such pretty animals.

JIM: Yeah. There's one old buck that's kinda making friends with the lookout man up there. Comes around every evening to make a call, he says, - sometimes right up to the door of the cabin.

BESS: I'd love to see him. Be sure and tell me more about him, won't you, Jim? I have to go in the other room and telephone now.

JIM: Sure. The lookout man's going to try to take some pictures of him.

BESS: I hope he's successful. (GOING OFF) Do you mind if I take this notebook a minute, Jerry?

JERRY: No. That's all right, Mrs. Robbins.

(SOUND OF DOOR)

JIM: Looks like our deer population is increasing on this forest, Jerry.

JERRY: That's good.

JIM: Plenty of wild life certainly dresses up the forest and makes it more interesting.

JERRY: Yes sir.

JIM:

(CHUCKLES) Speaking of wild life, one of the boys was telling me the other day about some unusual wild life on one of our national forests over in Eastern Oregon. You see, there was a circus travelling through the country there a little while back -- one of these small circuses that travels by truck, with three elephants and five camels in the troupe. -- Comin' along the highway, they passed by the ranger station, and the ranger told 'em they could take the elephants and camels over a trail through the forest and cut off about seven miles while the trucks were going around.-- Well, (chuckles) one of the lookout men was sittin' up in his crow's nest, watching the country, and seeing a little dust being kicked up down on the trail, he picked up his binoculars to see what was going on. He sure got a jolt when he made out what looked for all the world like a camel; nobody ever heard of any camels up in that country - forty miles from nowhere.-- Well, he rubs his eyes and readjusts the glasses for another look -- and by gravy, this time he sees an elephant! (chuckles) Up he jumps and runs for the looking glass to see if anything was wrong with himself. -- Stuck out his tongue to see if it was spotted, and everything. He knew he hadn't had anything to drink. (CHUCKLES) Well, by'n 'bye he ventured another look, and sure enough there was genuine elephants and camels, walking along that trail way up there in the Oregon mountains.

That was too much for this lookout. He gets the ranger on the phone and says he's sorry but he's gotta quit his job -- it's affecting his mind.

JERRY: (LAUGHS HALF-HEARTEDLY)

JIM: The ranger straightened things out, of course. --- Say, what's the matter with you, son? Why so glum?

JERRY: Nothing -- only -- I lost a check.

JIM: Lost a check? What check?

JERRY: One of the summer home permittees -- Mr. Miller -- gave me a check for his rental of the cabin site.

JIM: (STERNLY) Say -- look here, young fellow. -- Don't you know the administrative regulations prohibit your taking money from a forest user? Only our authorized fiscal agents can accept payments of fees.

JERRY: Yes, I know. -- I just did it to accommodate him.

JIM: I reckon you'd better read up on your manual again. -- Got any idea where you lost the check?

JERRY: N-no -- not for sure.

JIM: Well, you've got to find that check, -- or else fix it up with Miller, -- or it'll have to come out of your own pocket.

JERRY: I know -- I guess I'll have to dig it up. Well -- never again. They'll have to send their own remittances after this.

JIM: I've found that every one of those regulations has a very good reason back of them. It pays to follow them pretty strictly.

JERRY: Yes sir.

JIM: Well, now -- let's see what we can do about it.

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

JIM: Well, did you have any luck finding that check?

JERRY: No, sir.

JIM: Hmmm. That's too bad. --

(PHONE RINGS)

JIM: There's the phone. You want to get it?

JERRY: All right. (TO PHONE) Pine Cone Ranger Station.---

Mrs. Robbins? --- Just a minute. I'll call her. --

(CALLS) Mrs. Robbins!

BESS: (OFF) Yes, Jerry.

JERRY: (CALLS) You're wanted on the phone.

BESS: (OFF) All right. (COMING UP) Is it Mrs. Patterson?

JERRY: I don't know. It's some woman.

BESS: I hope it's Mrs. Patterson. Thanks, Jerry. (TO PHONE)

Hello - Oh, Mrs. Patterson. I was hoping you'd call.

-- Yes? --- I see -- Oh, that's fine! -- I'm so glad.

--- I'm certainly grateful to you, Mrs. Patterson.

--- Good! All right. Good bye. (HANGS UP RECEIVER)

Well, Jerry, we've recovered your check.

JERRY: You have?! Gee, that's great, Mrs. Robbins!

BESS: Yes, Mrs. Patterson has it. She's Ranger Patterson's wife, over on the next district.

JERRY: Gosh! I'm sure glad to hear that. How did she get it?

BESS: Well, I had a notion that the tourist you gave the map folder to might stop at Blue Lake, so I phoned the ranger station over there. Ranger Patterson was away, but Mrs. Patterson took the name and license number you had in your notebook, and went right up to Blue Lake herself.

JERRY: She found the car all right, huh?

BESS: Yes. They were just about to leave, but she got there in time. -- The man hadn't even opened up the map yet, but when they did, there was the check -- it had slipped into one of the folds of the map, just like I thought it might.

JERRY: Gee, that sure takes the load off my mind -- It sure would have nicked my bank account if I'd had to make it up.

JIM: Well, it takes a load off my mind too, Jerry. I don't like any irregularities in handling the fees. It's so easy to create misunderstandings.

JERRY: I know -- Gee, Mrs. Robbins, you're sure a peach!

BESS: (LAUGHS) Oh, now. I have to look out for my boys.

(FADEOUT)

ANNOUNCER:

Well, folks, Jerry is still learning.

Last year, there were more than 32 million visitors to the national forests. Many of them were transient tourists, of course, but thousands camped or picnicked, or visited resorts on the cool forest playgrounds that Uncle Sam administers and protects for his citizens. Perhaps you are considering a trip to the woods or mountains this summer. As an aid in planning your vacation, you may obtain without charge, while the supply lasts, a little folder entitled "Vacation in the National Forests" which shows the location of all national forests and describes briefly their recreational use. Write to the U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D. C.

Next Thursday at this same hour, Ranger Jim and Jerry will be with us again. "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" comes to you as a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

The cast today included:

pmp - 12:15 P.M.
June 14, 1932.

